

Bowl Parade, 2nd Place, Tampa, Florida '03; Walt Disney World's Mickey's Very Merry Christmas Parade '03; Indianapolis 500 Opening Ceremonies Spectacle of Bands '03; Chicago's Target Thanksgiving Day Parade '02; Indianapolis 500 Opening Ceremonies Spectacle of Bands '02; Indianapolis 500 Festival Parade '02.

The Red Regiment continues to achieve the very highest awards everywhere they perform and have been an ISSMA State Finalist in 1991, 1998, 1999, and 2003. In addition, the bands have earned consistent gold ratings in all marching, concert, and jazz ISSMA contests.

The NorthWood Bands have had the opportunity to perform with the internationally famous Dallas Brass, open for Maynard Ferguson and His Big Bop Nouveau Band, and also appear on the front cover of the JW Pepper's Sheet Music Magazine, which was distributed nationwide.

I congratulate the following staff and members of the NorthWood High School Red Regiment on all of their achievements and am proud to have them representing Indiana in the Washington, D.C. Memorial Day parade:

Barry L. Houser, Director of Bands; Jeanne Focht, Performing Arts Secretary; Tom Schiefer, Staff; Cristal Osbourn, Guard Director.

Abel, Stephen; Ammerman, Carter; Beachy, Stasia; Bechtold, Amanda; Brovont, Natasha; Campbell, Tyler; Capre, Laure; Carney, Samantha; Christianson, Taylor; Clark, Felisha; Clark, Rebecca; Dougherty, Sarah; Douwsma, Seth; Eagan, Harlan; Figueroa, Lisette.

Ford, Alicia; Ghigliotto, Bianca; Ghigliotto, Brenna; Grabill, Jacob; Hall, Samantha; Hapner, Edith; Henke, Corrie; Hochstetter, Chandra; Huber, Danielle; Hurst, Colton; Hurst, Trenna; Johnson, Brett; Johnson, Taryn; Kaufman, Michael; Koch, Stacie.

Korsmo, Amanda; Korsmo, Ashley; Kronk, Shawn; Kurtz, Hannah; Leavitt, Benjamin; Lengacher, Katelyn; Lentz, Kendra; Loutzenhiser, Samantha; Lucas, Ann; Maltos, Marisella; Marsh, Andrew; Martin, Andrea; McDonald, Jennifer; McFerren, Amanda; McFerren, Molly.

McWilliams, Hannah; Messick, Patrick; Metzler, Alisha; Miller, Drew; Minnich, Kimberly; Minnich, Kristen; Moorhead, Ian; Nelson, Stephanie; Nisley, Garret; Nissley, Bradlynn; Palmer, Tiffany; Peterson, Ben; Phillips, Tyler; Reed, Adam.

Reid, Tabitha; Reid, Thomas; Rensberger, Heather; Reynolds, Britney; Riege, Kyle; Riege, Matthew; Schaffer, Lucas; Schieber, Brett; Schloke, Kirsten; Schmitt, Ashley; Schmitt, Christina; Schmitt, Katelyn; Schmitt, Michael; Schmitt, Rochelle; Smith, Kayla.

Smith, Kyle; Smith, Lindsay; Sonner, Jaclyn; Stahl, Amanda; Stahl, Jeremy; Stephens, Stewart; Stevens, Derrick; Stutzman, Shelby; Stutzman, Trenton; Taylor, Qwatecia; Teske, Bradley.

Truex, Corey; Wakefield, Karen; Wegmiller, Jillian; Weldy, Kory; Wenger, Rachel; Wilson, Breanna; Yoder, Andrew; Yoder, Emily; Yoder, Sarah; Zimmerman, Krystal.

RAIL AND PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ACT OF 2007

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 1401) to improve the security of railroads, public transportation, and over-the-road buses in the United States, and for other purposes:

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to express my strong opposition to section three of amendment No. 18 offered to H.R. 1401, the Rail and Public Transportation Security Act of 2007, which would undermine a long standing principle of Federal uniformity in the area of railroad safety law. The railroads have long had Federal preemption from a variety of State-level laws because railroads, as a national system, could not function effectively under a patchwork of laws from 50 different States.

Regulation of rail safety must be uniform nationwide. The Federal Rail Safety Act was not intended to create minimum standards for rail safety; it was intended to create uniform standards governing railroad safety because Congress recognized that given the interstate and interdependent nature of the industry, uniformity was essential to effective safety regulation.

It would be counterproductive for States and localities to impose widely disparate safety requirements that could hinder a railroad's ability to operate efficiently across State and local boundaries. In 1970, Congress found that the railroad industry: "... has a truly interstate character calling for a uniform body of regulation and enforcement. . . . The integral operating parts of these companies cross many State lines. In addition to the obvious areas of rolling stock and employees, such elements as operating rules, signal systems, power supply systems, and communication systems of a single company normally cross numerous State lines. To subject a carrier to enforcement before a number of different State administrative and judicial systems in several areas of operation could well result in an undue burden on interstate commerce." (H.R. Report No. 91-1194 (1970))

Congress' reasoning was sound then, and that reasoning remains sound today.

In conclusion, I am concerned by the fact that this sweeping provision was labeled "technical" in nature. In addition, there have been no hearings on this topic and no analysis of its effects on the railroad industry and interstate commerce. Federal preemption is vital to fluid daily operations of the railroads which we all rely on to move goods efficiently across the country. In fact, we should not forget that, this is precisely why the founding fathers included important interstate commerce protections in the Constitution.

TRIBUTE TO WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

HON. JOHN P. SARBANES

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Mr. SARBANES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Women's History Month. Though we have designated March as the particular month for this celebration, we must pause everyday to salute the spirit, courage, and contributions of women in our own country and around the world.

With the election of the new Speaker of the House, our own Baltimore native Nancy Pelosi, we brought down another barrier and took another step towards equal and enfranchised participation of women in government. On her swearing-in day, Speaker Pelosi said "It says to women everywhere that not only a glass ceiling but a marble ceiling can be broken and that anything is possible." Out of the 180 countries that directly elect representatives to national legislatures, the United States ranks 60th in terms of female representation. Of the nearly 600 persons who have served in a President's Cabinet since George Washington's presidency, only 29 have been women. We have come a long way in giving a voice to the many disenfranchised and under-represented communities in our nation but the fight for social advancement is not over.

Maryland has been called home by many of America's trailblazing women. This month, Rachel Carson, who spent many years in Maryland and later died in Silver Spring, would have celebrated her 100th birthday. Ms. Carson received her masters degree in Zoology from John's Hopkins University and penned many feature articles on Natural History for the Baltimore Sun. But she was best known as the author of Silent Spring—the book that pulled back the curtain on the human and environmental impacts of chemical pesticides such as DDT. Facing a rash of criticism and in some cases harassment, Ms. Carson persevered and became known as the mother of the environmental movement. In 1964, her life was cut short by a disease that today has a grip on far too many lives, breast cancer.

Madam Speaker, the first female President of Ireland and former United Nations High Commissioner of Human Rights, Mary Robinson, once said, "In a society where the rights and potential of women are constrained, no man can be truly free. He may have power, but he will not have freedom." Celebrating women's history gives girls and women the courage to dream bigger and gives us all the opportunity to redouble our efforts in helping them realize these dreams. I salute the great women of our nation and encourage the next generation to further the cause of equality and freedom.

5-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF RADIO FREE AFGHANISTAN

HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Mr. ROYCE. Madam Speaker, January 30, 2007, marked the 5-year anniversary of Radio